

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 FDRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

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DRAFTED BY PHA/FDRC:GEBEAUCHAMP, JR.

APPROVED BY ARA/CEN:PSELLERS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 029372

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: QUESTIONS RAISED BY SITREP NO. 2

REF : GUATEMALA 804

1. APPRECIATE INFORMATIVE USEFUL REPORT. WE NOTE SUMMARY SAYS DAST ESTIMATES 6,000 DEAD, OVER 40,000 INJURED NATION-WIDE REPEAT NATIONWIDE. IN PARA FOUR, TOTAL DEAD REPORTED IN ONLY AREAS VISITED BY DAST SHOWN AS 6,152. THIS SUGGESTS DAST CONSIDERS FIGURES THEY SUBMIT FOR DEAD IN AREAS VISITED SOMEWHAT EXAGGERATED. ARE WE MISREADING THIS? WHICH FIGURES SHOULD WE USE FOR OFFICIAL REPORTING? WE NEED ANSWER HERE, IF POSSIBLE, BY NIACT FOR REPORT TO PRESIDENT THIS A.M.

2. WITH ONLY SEVEN-MAN DAST, NUMBER OF LOCALITIES REPORTED ON SUGGESTS THAT EVEN WHEN DIVIDED INTO TEAMS DAST HAD LITTLE OPPORTUNITY TO COMPILE CROSS-CHECKED, EYEBALLED, ON-GROUND CIVIL AFFAIRS DISASTER AREA STUDY REQUIRED FOR HARD ACCURACY. RATIO OF DEAD TO INJURED, FOR EXAMPLE, VERY UNTYPICAL THIS TYPE OF DISASTER. THEREFORE, SHOULD WE TREAT THESE STATISTICS AS INITIAL GUESS-ESTIMATES BY UNCLASSIFIED

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DAST PENDING THEIR STANDARD REVISIT, OR ARE THEY FIRM FOR

PUBLIC RELEASE NOW?

3. WOULD APPRECIATE DAST DATA, BY COMMUNITY VISITED ON:

- A. HOMELESS: HOMES DESTROYED, HOMES DAMAGED/REPAIRABLE.
- B. FOOD STOCKS BEFORE DISASTER AND PRESENT.
- C. NATURE OF PROBLEMS, IF POTABLE WATER SHORTAGE.
- D. INJURED BY CATEGORY: NUMBER TREATABLE OUT-PATIENT BASIS.
- E. ACCESSIBILITY BY ROAD. KISSINGER

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